



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

September 23, 2002

H.R. 5032

A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System lands in the Mendocino National Forest, California, to authorize the use of the proceeds from such conveyances for National Forest purposes, and for other purposes

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on September 12, 2002

CBO estimates that H.R. 5032 would not significantly affect the federal budget. The bill would affect direct spending (including offsetting receipts); therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply, but we estimate that any such effects would be negligible. H.R. 5032 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 5032 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to convey to a private landowner about 120 acres of federal lands within the Mendocino National Forest in California. The private landowner would pay fair market value for those lands. The bill would authorize the Secretary to use proceeds from the conveyance to cover certain administrative costs and to acquire other lands and interests in California.

According to the Forest Service, the lands to be sold currently generate no significant receipts and are not expected to do so over the next 10 years. Based on information from the agency, CBO estimates that proceeds from the proposed sale would total up to \$200,000 in 2003, and that the agency would spend those proceeds over the 2003-2004 period. Hence, we estimate that, under H.R. 5032, the net change in direct spending in those years would be negligible.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.